

**TIPPECANOE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
SPECIAL MEETING  
MARCH 11, 2002**

The Tippecanoe County Commissioners met on Monday, March 11, 2002 at 10:00 A.M. in the Tippecanoe Room in the County Office Building. Commissioners present were: President John L. Knochel, Vice President KD Benson, and Member Ruth E. Shedd; Auditor Robert A. Plantenga, Commissioners' Assistant Jennifer Weston, County Attorney David W. Luhman, and Secretary Pauline E. Rohr.

President Knochel called the meeting to order.

***COUNTY PARKING GARAGE PROPOSAL: Downtown business owner Steve Klink and Lafayette Urban Enterprise Association Executive Director Dennis Carson***

In Mr. Klink's opinion, charging for parking in the County Garage evenings and weekends has a negative effect on Downtown businesses. He noted that all other surface lots that offer free evening and weekend hours are full while the County's Garage is mostly vacant. If the County agrees to also offer free parking from 6:00 P.M. to 7:00 A.M. and on weekends, he conceded that additional expenses will be incurred because of the increase in the number of parkers. TeleServices Direct plans to encourage their employees to park in the garage during their shift from 5:00 P.M. to Midnight to open more on-street parking for Downtown restaurant customers. To help offset those expenses, TeleServices Direct agrees to pay the County \$325.00 per month and Lafayette Urban Enterprise Association agrees to pay the County \$175.00 per month.

Mr. Carson said the Urban Enterprise Executive Committee is very supportive of this proposal. He thinks free parking will go a long way toward improving the parking perception of Downtown and will promote future development.

Commissioner Shedd asked what will happen if TeleServices Direct leaves Downtown. Mr. Klink responded that they have been here for two (2) years and are currently in a hiring mode due to an increase in business.

If the County enters into an agreement with these two groups, President Knochel thinks the County should reserve the right to charge during special events.

Commissioner Shedd expressed concern regarding the effect this might have on the County's Management Agreement with the Downtown Business Center (DBC). President Knochel said he doesn't believe this will affect that Agreement.

- Commissioner Benson moved to acknowledge the contributions of \$325.00 per month from TeleServices Direct and \$175.00 per month from Lafayette Urban Enterprise Association for the Parking Garage and moved to keep the exit arms up from 6:00 P.M. to 7:00 A.M. and weekends effective March 11, 2002 with the right to charge during special events, seconded by Commissioner Shedd.

Commissioner Shedd thought the DBC should be consulted before setting an effective date. Mr. Klink said he thinks the DBC will be very supportive.

- The motion carried.

Mr. Klink thanked the Commissioners for their decision. He said this is a good example of cooperation between the County and the City of Lafayette.

***APPROVAL OF CLAIM: Stallard & Schuh***

Attorney Luhman announced that the closing on the Slutsky Building, a warehouse located at 779 Cordale Rd. that will be used to store vehicles for the Sheriff's Department and Emergency Management, is scheduled for March 20, 2002. The Commissioners are asked to approve a Claim in the amount of \$278,562.40 to Stallard &

Schuh, the closing company.

- Commissioner Benson moved to approve the Claim in the amount of \$278,562.40 to Stallard & Schuh for the purchase of the Slutsky Building, seconded by Commissioner Shedd; motion carried.

***APPOINTMENT: Common Wage Board***

- Commissioner Benson moved to appoint Carl Treece to the Common Wage Board for the CAT Park Project for the City of Lafayette and the Purdue Research Park Infrastructure Project for the City of West Lafayette, seconded by Commissioner Shedd; motion carried.

***BANK ONE PROPOSAL: Voter Equipment Financing***

President Knochel announced Bank One's proposed rates to borrow \$1.2 million to lease Voter Equipment:

3 year lease rate	3.19%
5 year lease rate	3.77%
7 year lease rate	4.26%

With a balance of \$2.4 million in the Cum Cap Fund, President Knochel said the County could purchase the equipment outright. However, with interest rates so low, he thinks it is a good time to borrow and favors the three year lease option. If the three year lease plan is approved, the County will be making two (2) payments of \$211,312.21 annually. Although the loan will be repaid with Cum Cap funds, it will free up those funds for other projects as well. Commissioner Benson noted that the vendor's interest rate is higher.

- Commissioner Benson moved to recommend borrowing \$1.2 million from Bank One over three (3) years at an interest rate of 3.19% to the County Council, seconded by Commissioner Shedd; motion carried.

***APPROVAL OF CLAIMS: Legal Services for Security Mandate***

- Upon the recommendation of Commissioners' Assistant Weston, Commissioner Shedd moved to pay Claims of \$99,371.78 to Ice Miller and \$89,911.75 to Bingham Summers Welsh & Spilman on March 15, 2002 for Legal Services for the Security Mandate subject to the County Council's appropriation of the funds, seconded by Commissioner Benson; motion carried.

***ADJOURNMENT***

- Commissioner Benson moved to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner Shedd; motion carried.

Robert A. Plantenga, Auditor